



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/063,279	04/08/2002	Curtis E. Scott	33916	2460
116	7590	06/28/2004	EXAMINER	
PEARNE & GORDON LLP 1801 EAST 9TH STREET SUITE 1200 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-3108			HARPER, HOLLY R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/063,279	SCOTT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Holly R. Harper	2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20,22-24 and 26-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17,22-24,26-28,30-32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 19,20 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 April 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

The Amendment, filed on 5/5/04, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 30-32 have been entered.

Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 18, 24, 26 have been amended.

Claim 25 has been canceled.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bardos et al. (USPN 5,170,095).

Regarding claim 18, Bardos discloses a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a light-transmissive glass envelope (Figure 1, Element 1) with an inner surface, a phosphor layer (Figure 1, Element 2) adjacent to the inner surface, a discharge-sustaining fill gas of mercury vapor and inert gas sealed inside the envelope (Column 3, Lines 44-46). The phosphor layer is made of a luminescent material and a small quantity of calcium (abstract). The phosphor layer deters the absorption of mercury ions (abstract).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-17, 22-24, and 26-32 are allowed.

Regarding claim 1, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 1, and specifically comprising the limitation of a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a glass envelope composition containing a mercury-insulating material.

Regarding claims 2-17, 27-28, and 31-32, claims 2-17, 27-28, and 31-32 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 1 because of their dependency status from claim 1.

Regarding claim 22, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 23, and specifically comprising the limitation of a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a mercury barrier layer made of an electrically non-conductive tin oxide.

Regarding claim 23, claim 23 is allowable for the reasons given in claim 22 because of its dependency status from claim 22.

Regarding claim 24, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 24, and specifically comprising the limitation of a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a phosphor layer containing a mercury barrier material made of potassium.

Regarding claims 26 and 30, claims 26 and 30 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 24 because of their dependency status from claim 24.

Art Unit: 2879

4. Claims 19, 20, and 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 19, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 19, and specifically comprising the limitation of a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a mercury barrier layer made of at least .5 weight percent potassium.

Regarding claim 20, claim 20 is allowable for the reasons given in claim 19 because of its dependency status from claim 19.

Regarding claim 29, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 29, and specifically comprising the limitation of a mercury vapor discharge fluorescent lamp with a mercury barrier layer made of a potassium salt.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

Art Unit: 2879

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Holly Harper whose telephone number is (571) 272-2453. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7382.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Holly Harper  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2879



**ASHOK PATEL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**